

10/817,048
Amdt. Dated Jun. 29, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 17, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1,2, 4-18 and 21-23 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness0type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent Number 6716952. A Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith for U.S. Patent Number 6716952.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11-16 and 22 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by a Japanese reference to Yokohama Rubber. Although the Applicants disagree with this rejection, to further prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 5, claim6 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 10 and claim 11 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 12 and claim 18. Thus it is believed that amended claims 1, 6 and 11, and all claims dependent thereon, are now allowable. Original claims 1, 6 and 11 will be prosecuted in a continuation application.

The Applicants therefore respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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